

University Core Development Committee

Minutes

Meeting: February 18, 2009 at 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m. in Gasson 215

Present:

Patrick Byrne, Mary Cronin, Cathy Read, Audrey Friedman, Margaret Thomas, James Weiss, Michael Clarke, Stephen Schloesser, Clare Dunsford, Richard Cobb-Stevens

Discussion:

- 1) The first hour of the meeting was devoted to a discussion with two student representatives from the UGBC, Maria Centano and Stephen Lui. They were principally interested in the possibility of consolidating existing Cultural Diversity courses into fewer and more focused options. Members of the committee pointed out that this would require a massive restructuring of the present cultural diversity program. Maria and Stephen also proposed that the cultural diversity requirement ought to include courses devoted to “an understanding of the process of identity formation with respect to race, ethnicity, class, sex, and sexual orientation.” Members of the committee pointed out that there was a tension between the first proposal that these courses should be more focused and the second proposal that they should be expanded to include all of the issues mentioned in the second proposal.
- 2) There followed a discussion of a three new proposals for cultural diversity credit submitted by Elizabeth Goizueta (International Programs): “Kuwait: Politics and Oil in the Gulf,” “Cultural et Civilizacion Ibero-Americana,” and “Spain in the XXI Century: Building Bridges.” All were approved.

Richard Cobb-Stevens